

Parnell a select committee with reference to the unfounded charges in the *Times*, they forced a bill through the House of Commons constituting a Commission composed of three judges. Judge Day was an avowed opponent of Ireland. He was juror as well as judge. He believed Mr. Parnell would come out of the trial successfully.

Colonel Evanston and Captain Preston, R.M.'s., held a Coercion Court at Dundalk recently to hear the remaining charges against the men who were accused of attending the Dillon meeting. Mr. Adams defended. Peter Hughes was sentenced to 14 days, Thomas Lennon, 7 days, without hard labour; John Maguire and P. Connolly, a month each with hard labour; Thomas Smyth and John Lennon, one month with hard labour; George Philips, 14 days' hard labour; James Martin, 14 days' hard labour; Michael Sheils, 6 weeks' hard labour; S. Beggave, one month, without hard labour; George Murphy was found not guilty, but was ordered to find bail for his good behaviour for 12 months, or in default to go to gaol for a month. Murphy refused to acknowledge guilt by giving bail, and elected to go to gaol with the rest.

Mayo.—As the result, it is said, of some serious misunderstanding with his employer, George Hewson, of Dromahaire, has resigned agency of the Arran estates. Mr. Hewson, who succeeded the late John Cress as agent, was pretty active and even rigorous in his capacity and superintended several evictions, but it appears was nevertheless unable to satisfy on the whole the demands of the Earl of Arran, and hence this affecting parting.

Grievous damage to all crops has been caused by the late heavy rains and almost Arctic weather. Mown grass is actually rotting on the ground, and thus a large portion of it is irretrievably injured, while oats and uncut meadows are in almost as pitiable a plight. And, most serious of all, the potato crop promises badly. The tubers are found to be small, very watery, and greatly diseased. The blight, too, is making its appearance—in isolated spots, certainly, but little consolation can be derived from this, judging by the experience of 1879 and 1882.

The regular meeting of Ballina I.N.L., was held in the Catholic Commercial Young Men's Hall, Mill street; P. G. Smyth presided. Committee members present:—Messrs. Malone, Callaghan, Murphy, Rutledge, and Coomy. The following resolution was unanimously carried:—That we heartily sympathise with P. A. McHugh, the patriotic Mayor of Sligo, in the prosecution which is being directed against him by the Coercion Government; and that we trust the efforts of Mr. Balfour and his satellites to gag the Irish press will prove as vain and abortive in Connaught as elsewhere.

The Swinford Sextons played the Keltimagh O'Donnells at Swinford the other day. A. J. Staunton set the ball rolling and conducted the game throughout in the most impartial manner. The Keltimagh men were piloted into town by Messrs. McNicholas and Murtagh—the former gentleman being a respected member of the County Committee, and I believe to both is partly due the success of establishing a branch of the G.A. Club in that locality. The Sextons from start to finish exhibited a knack of playing that their opponents could not attempt, and succeeded in keeping them in their own territory nearly throughout the entire game. When time was up the score for the Sextons was—one goal, four points, to nil for the O'Donnells.

There was a large meeting of the Kilmoevee I.N.L., on July 29, Rev. M. Henry presiding. The following resolution was adopted:—That we, the tenants of the Gibbons estate, do hereby solemnly renew our pledges of clinging to the banner we were forced to unfurl owing to the unbending temper of our new agents—the famous Burke and Darley. When they are prepared to wipe away the incubus of law costs and give us the same reduction as our neighbours have got, and as every honest and fair-minded man thinks we deserve—then, and not till then are we prepared to pay Mrs. Gibbons any rent.

Meath.—At the meeting of the Moynalty and Newcastle I.N.L., the chair was occupied by Rev. J. Gilsenan. The following resolution was adopted:—That we consider James Lynch, Skeirke, now threatened with eviction, as deserving the sympathy and practical support of every National Leaguer in this and surrounding parishes, and we pledge ourselves to maintain him in his struggle against his tyrant.

Monaghan.—Rev. Patrick Callan presided at the recent meeting of the Carrickmacross I.N.L. The following resolution was adopted:—That we tender to Mrs. Mandeville the expression of our heartfelt sympathy and condolence in the great loss she has sustained in the death of her brave husband, who was undoubtedly done to death in Tullamore Gaol.

The weather in this County lately has been rather favourable for farming operations. A good deal of hay has been ricked, but the quality has been much inferior to that of last year. Forced grass has suffered most, and the seed in a great many instances has been completely lost; what remains of it uncut has cast the seed, while the large proportion in stock could not be saved in time to secure either seed or hay under favourable conditions. Hundreds of acres of low-lying meadows have been flooded, and in too many instances the cut crop has been carried away by the floods. There never was a heavier yield on meadows, and after all the supply of good hay will be much shorter than during any season for the past ten years. Oats look well, and will probably pay better than any other crop this season.

Roscommon.—At the recent meeting of the Corrigenroe I.N.L., John McDermott presided. The following resolution was adopted:—That we strongly protest against the unjust arrest of James J. O'Kelly, M.P., our representative, for advising his fellow-countrymen to stand together against oppression.

Removables Beckett and Longbourne held a Coercion Court at Castlereagh on August 3 for the purpose of hearing the charges against John Fitzgibbon and eight others of inducing tenants to adopt the Plan of Campaign. Honor Keenan, James Manesty, Bernard Kelly, M. J. Neilon, Thomas McGarry, Patrick McDermott, F. J. Cullen, Patrick Forde, Thomas McCabe, and Thomas Fannon were called as witnesses. They refused to give evidence, and the Crown announced its intention of prosecuting them later on. Martin Johnson, William Flannery, Michael Kelly, Timothy Campbell, Michael Connolly, and Martin Mulleague did not appear when called, and warrants were issued for their arrest. The Court then adjourned.

At the Petty Sessions held at Athlone recently before Resident Magistrate Beckett a large number of ejectment proceedings were brought under the Land Act of 1887, which gave the magistrates summary jurisdiction to grant ejectment decrees in cases where tenants did not fulfil the conditions under which they were reinstated as caretakers. H. Davidson, solicitor, Ballinasloe, who appeared for Landlord Persse, who owns an extensive estate in Roscommon, asked for decrees of possession against several tenants. The tenants had been allowed the advantages of the Arrears Act and they had also the judicial rents fixed by the Commissioners. Mr. Beckett said these were the first cases under the Act that had been brought before the magistrates and he would require strict proofs given. All the necessary proofs having been given, decrees for possession under the eviction-made-easy clause were granted in each case.

Mr. Hayden asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant whether P. O'Brien, M.P., on his release from Tullamore Prison after completing a term of four months' imprisonment, was re-arrested and conveyed to Kilkenny to undergo a further term of three months; whether this latter sentence was inflicted while Mr. O'Brien was in custody on the first charge; whether under the circumstances the sentence should run from the first day of the sessions; whether this practice was followed in the case of the honourable member for South Galway; and whether any power lies with a judge deciding an appeal to stay execution of one sentence until another shall have terminated? Mr. Balfour, in reply, said:—The facts are as stated in the first and second paragraphs of the question. In the first case referred to in the fourth paragraph the judge decided that the sentence should run from the first day of the sessions. No such direction was given in the case of the honourable member for North Monaghan. As to the legal question suggested as to the commencement of the term of imprisonment in the latter case, I have directed the matter to be submitted to the law officers for their opinion.

Sligo.—The regular meeting of the Keash I.N.L. took place on July 29, Luke Haanon presiding. All the members present expressed sincere regard for Rev. P. McDermott, who has been sent to the parish of Kilmactigue. The people of Keash deeply regret the departure of Father McDermott, who during his mission amongst them was a kind and amiable priest. Apart from his religious duties he never lost sight of the duty he owed his country. He was a strong supporter of the National cause and was chiefly instrumental in raising that golden banner of nationality—faith and fatherland—and keeping it aloft in Keash at a time when it was going to crumble into dust. He took a prominent part with the poor, struggling tenant-farmers whom he saw in misery to obtain that justice which they were entitled to, and it is only now when he is gone that the people fully realise all those noble services. The following resolution was passed unanimously:—That the Committee of this branch return their best thanks to our late President, Rev. P. McDermott, for the many services he has rendered to the National cause since he became our pastor, and we pray that God may spare him long life and good health to continue in the same noble work amongst the people of Kilmactigue. There was a deputation appointed to wait on Father Conlon and request him to become President of the branch. After transacting some other routine business and enrolling several new members, a vote of thanks to the chairman brought the proceedings to a close.

THREE PELLETS OF BREAD.

(Translated from the French of Boucher.)

PAUL C—was a "jolly good fellow," so every one said. Thirty years old perhaps, a Parisian in every sense of the word, with that courageous nature, lively and a little inclined to teasing, that is the characteristic of the children of Paris. Nevertheless, he had an excellent heart, and was ready to throw himself into the fire if necessary for the very one whom an instant before he had made the target for his jests.

It was at R—, that pretty little neighbouring city to Puy, that Paul found himself one morning for pleasure and the drinking of certain healthful waters, for R—, as every one knows, is a charming summer resort, and filled, during the summer at least, with guests. Paul and his friend, Edouard Duchesne, were at the same hotel, and took their meals together at the table d'hôte, where they had for a neighbour in front of them an Englishman, known to be a very rich and very eccentric, and whose life they said was but series of endless journeyings around the world.

If Paul betrayed himself a Parisian in every act and feature, so did the stranger betray the nativity of his melancholy country. Short of stature and fat, the face broad and ruddy, the skull bald and shining, the beard blond, the eyes blue as corn flowers, he was truly the most perfect type of an Englishman that it is possible to imagine. More than once Paul found himself smiling at the impassable visage of Sir Arthur Jacobson, for such was the stranger's name. This evening, then, when the events occurred that I am going to tell you of, and, by the way, the evening of the departure of the two young men, as the dinner was drawing to a close, exhilarated doubtless by the champagne they had taken, Paul amused himself while talking to Edouard in rolling balls of bread crumbs and launching them between thumb and finger, as school children launch balls of paper, at his neighbour, the Englishman. It was a thoughtless, not to say rude, exhibition on the part of Paul, but then Paul was not quite himself, and the temptation was for the moment irresistible.

As the first pellet struck the arm of Sir Arthur Jacobson he slowly turned his clear eyes upon Paul and his companion, but his broad physiognomy lost nothing of its habitual placidity. One would have supposed even that he had seen and comprehended nothing, had it not been for the fact that with an air of the utmost indifference and phlegm he lifted the morsel of bread crumb and slipped it into the pocket of his vest; still, however, without uttering a syllable.

The bearing of this man was well calculated to excite the teasing humour of the Parisian, and scarcely a moment had elapsed since the